

NEWS RELEASE

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TWO MEN PLEAD GUILTY TO ESCAPING FROM FEDERAL PRISON CAMP

Randy G. Massey, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on October 2, 2006, two defendants in related cases pled guilty to escaping from the Federal Prison Camp at Marion, Illinois.

LAWRENCE BARNETT, age 37, pled guilty in United States District Court in Benton. **GLEN WALKER**, age 30, pled guilty in United States District Court in East St. Louis.

BARNETT and WALKER were both charged with escaping from the minimum security work camp on October 17, 2005. Both were taken into custody by the Williamson County Sheriff's Department that same day approximately 2 miles from the prison.

At the time of the escape, BARNETT was serving an 87 month sentence imposed in the Central District of Illinois for distribution of crack cocaine and WALKER was serving a 144 month sentence imposed in the Eastern District of Missouri for conspiring to distribute crack cocaine

Sentencing for BARNETT was set for January 22, 2007, in Benton and for WALKER on January 3, 2007, in East St. Louis. Both defendants face up to 5 years' imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and 3 years of supervised release to follow incarceration. In addition, federal law requires that the sentences imposed must run consecutively to the sentences of imprisonment the defendants were serving at the time of the escape.

The investigation into these cases was conducted by the United States Marshal's Service and the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

The cases are being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James M. Cutchin.